

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SIL-01 LAB-01 FEAE-00

INT-05 SCI-02 OMB-01 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 EB-04

COME-00 /082 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7506

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CARIO

AMEMBASSY CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY

USINT BAGHDAD

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L 14334

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: MEDITERRANEAN ANTI-MONOPOLISTIC PETROLEUM COMMITTEE

REF: CASABLANCA'S 878

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. A MEETING IN ROME OF THE "MEDITERRANEAN ANTI-MONOPOLISTIC PETROLEUM COMMITTEE," A COMMUNIST-SPONSORED ORGANIZATION, WAS PREMATURELY CONCLUDED PURSUANT TO OBJECTIONS RAISED BY AN ITALIAN UNION. THE ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE ON THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH ORGANIZING A NEW MEETING
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NEXT SPRING. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GATHER, A NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL WORKERS UNIONS OF "MEDITERRANEAN" COUNTRIES MET SOMEWHAT ABORTIVELY IN ROME ON OCTOBER 7 AND 8 UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE "MEDITERRANEAN ANTI-MONOPOLISTIC PETROLEUM COMMITTEE". THE MEETING BROKE UP PREMATURELY BECAUSE OF OBJECTIONS RAISED BY FEDERENERGIA, THE AFFILIATE OF THE CATHOLIC LABOR CONFEDERATION CISL WHICH ORGANIZES ITALIAN PETROLEUM WORKERS.

3. FEDERENERGIA COMPLAINED THAT FEDERCHIMICI, THE CISL AFFILIATE WHICH ORGANIZES CHEMICAL WORKERS, WAS INTERFERING IN FEDERENERGIA'S JURISDICTION OF BEING A CO-SPONSOR OF THE MEETING. (FEDERCHIMICI'S CO-SPONSORSHIP AROSE OUT OF ITS ASSOCIATION WITH FILCEA, THE COMMUNIST CHEMICAL WORKERS UNION, WHICH WAS THE PRIMARY SPONSOR OF THE MEETING.) FEDERENERGIA ALSO OBJECTED TO THE FACT THAT THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH THE USSR AND IRAQ, NEITHER OF WHICH IS A MEDITERRANEAN NATION.

4. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE ON THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH ORGANIZING A NEW MEETING FOR NEXT SPRING.

5. THE MEETING WAS HELD IN SECRECY. ONLY TWO BRIEF ARTICLES APPEARED IN THE ITALIAN PRESS, BOTH WELL AFTER THE EVENT. THE COMMUNIST DAILY L'UNITA REPORTED ON OCTOBER 12 THAT THE MEETING "SEVERELY CRITICIZED THE MULTINATIONAL OIL COMPANIES AND THE UN SPEECH OF THE US PRESIDENT WHICH ATTEMPTED TO PUT THE BLAME FOR THE CRISIS BEING EXPERIENCED BY THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES ON THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES AND CONCLUDED BY MEANACING THEM." ON THE SAME DAY, CORRIERA DELLA SERA REPORTED THAT THE MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ITALY (FEDERCHIMICI-CISL AND FILCEA-CGIL), EGYPT (NATIONAL UNION OF PETROLEUM, MINING AND CHEMICAL WORKERS), ALGERIA (NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL WORKERS), FRANCE (NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL WORKERS CGT), IRAQ (GENERAL UNION OF PETROLEUM WORKERS) AND MOROCCO (NATIONAL UNION OF PETROLEUM, MINING AND GAS WORKERS). NO NAMES WERE GIVEN.

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6. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE USSR, BUT FEDERENERGIA CON-
TQCTS TELL US SOME SOVIETS WERE PRESENT. THE ABSENCE OF
LIBYAN AND TUNISIAN REPRESENTATIVES WAS CONSIDERED AN
ADDITIONAL REASON FOR THE FAILURE OF THE MEETING.

7. THE COMMITTEE EVIDENTLY WAS ORGANIZED IN 1966 BY THE CGIL,
CGT AND THE ALGERIAN FEDERATION OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL

WORKERS. IT WAS ORIGINALLY KNOWN AS THE COMMITTEE OF ANTI-MONOPOLY ACTION OF THE PETROLEUM WORKERS UNIONS OPERATING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA, BLACK SEA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

8. COMMENT: THE PROMPT TERMINATION OF THE MEETING FOLLOWING FEDERENERGIA'S OBJECTONS WOULD APPEAR TO BE THE RESULT OF THE CGIL'S DESIRE TO AVOID ANY JURISDICTIONAL BATTLES WHICH MIGHT DAMAGE THE AIM OF ITALIAN LABOR UNITY. VOLPE

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